

Application No. 10/530,485
Reply to Office Action of May 20, 2008

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes new Figure 20.

Attachment: One New Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-34 are presently pending in this case. Claim 18 is amended by the present amendment. As amended Claim 18 is supported by the original claims, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, the drawings were objected to; Claims 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Dilger et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,670,876, hereinafter “Dilger”); Claims 18, 20, 23-25, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Hattori et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,424,705, hereinafter “Hattori”); Claims 18, 21, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Carr et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,745,363, hereinafter “Carr”); Claims 18, 21, and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as patentable over Woyton (U.S. Patent No. 3,916,326) in view of Jansseune (U.S. Patent No. 6,043,646); and Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as patentable over Carr in view of McDearmon et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20040017190, hereinafter “McDearmon”). However, Claim 34 was allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claim 34.

Applicants and Applicants’ representatives thank Examiner Whittington for the courtesy of the interview granted to Applicants’ representatives on August 29, 2008. During the interview, differences between Claim 18 and the cited references were discussed, as well as the objection to the drawings. Examiner Whittington agreed that a proposed amendment to make Claim 18 dependent from Claim 34 appeared to overcome the rejection of record. Further, a proposed new drawing appeared to overcome the objection to the drawings.

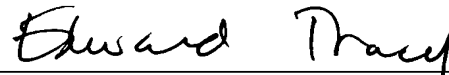
With regard the objection to the drawings, new Figure 20 is provided which illustrates the feature recited in Claim 25. Corresponding amendments to the specification are also submitted herewith. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejections of record, Claim 18 is amended to from allowed Claim 34. Accordingly, Claims 18-33 dependent from Claim 34 are also allowable.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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